Loss of imported base oil

*231. SHRI ANAND SHARMA;
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 462 tonnes of imported base oil has been lost in transit from a consignment of 1100 tonnes ordered by M/s. Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) in September, 1987; and

(b) if so, what are ihe details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) and (b) BPCL has reported short receipt of approximately 547 tonnes of imported base oil out of total quantity of 1477 tonnes stated to have been pumped by tanker "Nand Smriti" through their pipeline on 26-9-1987. The sholrt receipt could be due to incorrect accounting at point of discharge/receiving installation or disposal of some quantities on the High Seas before arrival or during discharge at the Port apart from a possible leak in the pipeline. According to preliminary investigations, possibilities of a pipeline leak or incorrect accounting at receiving end have not been considered likely.

Further detailed investigations are underway along with other concerned organisations like Indian Oil Corporation and Bombay Port Trust to identify the reason for loss. BPCL has been asked to expedite the enquiry.

Construction of Bakreshwar Thermal Power Plant

232. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that the proposed thermal power plant at Bakreshwar will be built by National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) in collaboration with the Soviet Union for which Government held talks recently;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that the West Bengal State Government who wanted to construct this plant were not allowed to be associated with the talks; and

(c) if so what are the reasons for entrusting construction job to NTPC?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) At present, the alternatives for implementation of the Bakreshwar project are being considered and have been discussed with the Government of West Bengal.

(b) Recently, a meeting of the Indo-Soviet Working Group on Power was held in Moscow. The Working Group is composed of the representa tives of the Government of India and of the U.S.S.R Government:

(c) Does not arise.

Recognising cinema as an industry

233. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state.

(a) whether the Film Federation of India has urged the Government to recognise film making activity as an industry in keeping with the recommendations of various Government bodies and the working group on national film policy; and

(b) if so what is the Government's reaction in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) A request for declaration of film industry (viz: film making, distribution and exhibition) as an industry has been received.